

**From:** Rev. Dr. Andrew Hermetz, D. D., H.M./S.H.  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

What can I say that hasn't already been said?

In our Constitutional Republic and its capitalist underpinnings, there are clearly defined rules for many situations, circumstances. Adaptable, flexible, and founded on logic, these standards for self-governance allow us to determine when a fellow citizen has stepped outside of prescribed boundaries...and "We the People" have found Microsoft to be guilty.

For nearly two decades, it had been an open secret among people inside the computer industry that, from its humble beginnings as a subcontractor for IBM's original Personal Computer to the World's Largest Software Co. with a 90% lock on every computer sold on the face of the Earth, Microsoft used any means at their disposal to achieve their goals. Industry insider testimony at the trial demonstrated this repeatedly.

What to do next?

Surely no punishment doled out to Microsoft should be so narrow as to serve as a loophole for future violations; nor should it be so broad as to be unenforceable. One thing for sure is that no penalty should be without some form of future oversight to prevent abuse after the eye of investigators has been turned to some other matter. An effort to build and maintain a level playing field will have to utilize some method(s) for opening up some of the doors kept closed through Microsoft standard operating procedures.

I urge my duly elected public officials to take \*real\* action in administering the penalty phase of this case.

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